NUMB. CLIV.

The SPECTATOR.

Nemo repente fuit Turpiſſimus—— Juv.

Monday, Auguſt 27. 1711.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

'YOU are frequent in the Mention of 'Matters which concern the feminine 'World, and take upon you to be very 'ſevere againſt Men upon all thoſe Occaſions: But all this while I am afraid you have been very little converſant with Women, or you would know the Generality of them are not ſo angry as you imagine at the general Vices amongſt us. I am apt to believe (begging your Pardon) that you are ſtill what I my ſelf was once, a meer modeſt Fellow; and therefore, for your Information, ſhall give you a ſhort Account of my ſelf, and the Reaſons why I was forced to wench, drink, play, and do every thing which are neceſſary to the Character of a Man of Wit and Pleaſure, to be well with the Ladies.

'You are to know then that I was bred a Gentleman, and had the finiſhing Part of my Education under a Man of great Probity, Wit, and Learning in one of our Univerſities. I will not deny but this made my Behaviour and Mein bear in it a Figure of Thought rather than Action; and a Man of a quite contrary Character, who never thought in his Life, rallied me one Day upon it, and ſaid He believ'd I was ſtill a Virgin. There was a young Lady of Virtue preſent; and I was not diſpleaſed to favour the Inſinuation: But it had a quite contrary Effect from what I expected, I was ever after treated with great Coldneſs both by that Lady and all the reſt of my Acquaintance. In a very little Time I never came into a Room but I could hear a Whiſper, Here comes the Maid: A Girl of Humour would on ſome Occaſions ſay, Why how do you know more than any of us? An Expreſſion of that kind was generally followed by a loud Laugh: In a Word, for no other Fault in the World than that they really thought me as innocent as themſelves, I became of no Conſequence among them, and was receiv'd always upon the Foot of a Jeſt. This made ſo ſtrong an Impreſſion upon me, that I reſolv'd to be as agreeable as the beſt of the Men who laughed at me; but I obſerved it was Nonſenſe for me to be impudent at firſt among thoſe who knew me: My Character for Modeſty was ſo notorious wherever I had hitherto appeared, 'that I reſolved to ſhew my new Face in new 'Quarters of the World. My firſt Step I choſe 'with Judgment, for I went to *Aſtrop*; and 'came down among a Crowd of Academicks, 'at one Daſh, the impudenteſt Fellow they 'had ever ſeen in their Lives. Fluſhed with 'this Succeſs, I made Love and was happy. Upon this Conqueſt I thought it would be unlike 'a Gentleman to ſtay long with my Miſtreſs, and 'croſſed the Country to *Bury*: I could give you a 'very good Account of my ſelf at that Place alſo. 'At theſe two ended my firſt Summer of Gallantry. 'The Winter following, you would wonder at it, 'but I relapſed into Modeſty upon coming among 'People of Figure in *London*, yet not ſo much but 'that the Ladies who had formerly laughed at me 'ſaid, Bleſs us! how wonderfully that Gentleman 'is improved? Some Familiarities about the Play-houſes towards the End of the enſuing Winter, 'made me conceive new Hopes and Adventures; 'and inſtead of returning the next Summer to '*Aſtrop* or *Bury*, I thought my ſelf qualified to go 'to *Epſom*, and followed a young Woman, whoſe 'Relations were jealous of my Place in her Favour, 'to *Scarborough*. I carried my Point, and in my 'third Year aſpired to go to *Tunbridge*, and in the 'Autumn of the ſame Year made my Appearance at '*Bath*. I was now got into the Way of Talk proper for Ladies, and was run into a vaſt Acquaintance among them, which I always improved to 'the *beſt Advantage*. In all this Courſe of Time, 'and ſome Years following, I found a ſober modeſt Man was always looked upon by both Sexes 'as a preciſe unfaſhioned Fellow of no Life or Spirit. It was ordinary for a Man who had been 'drunk in good Company, or paſſed a Night with a 'Wench, to ſpeak of it next Day before Women for 'whom he had the greateſt Reſpect. He was reproved, perhaps, with a Blow of the Fan or an oh Fie, 'but the angry Lady ſtill preſerved an apparent 'Approbation in her Countenance: He was called a 'ſtrange wicked Fellow, a ſad Wretch; he ſhrugs 'his Shoulders, ſwears, receives another Blow, 'ſwears again he did not know he ſwore, and all 'was well. You might often ſee Men game in the 'Preſence of Women, and throw at once for more 'than they were worth, to recommend themſelves

as Men of Spirit. I found by long Experience, that the looſeſt Principles and moſt abandoned Behaviour, carried all before them in Pretenſions to Women of Fortune. The Encouragement given to People of this Stamp, made me ſoon throw off the remaining Impreſſions of a ſober Education. In the above-mentioned Places, as well as in Town, I always kept Company with thoſe who lived moſt at large; and in due Proceſs of Time I was a very pretty Rake among the Men, and a very pretty Fellow among the Women. I muſt confeſs I had ſome melancholy Hours upon the Account of the Narrowneſs of my Fortune, but my Conſcience at the ſame Time gave me the Comfort that I had qualified my ſelf for marrying a Fortune.

'When I had lived in this Manner for ſome Time, and became thus accompliſhed, I was now in the Twenty ſeventh Year of my Age, and about the Forty ſeventh of my Conſtitution, my Health and Eſtate waſting very faſt; when I happened to fall into the Company of a very pretty young Lady in her own Diſpoſal. I entertained the Company, as we Men of Gallantry generally do, with the many Haps and Diſaſters, Watchings under Windows, Eſcapes from jealous Huſbands, and ſeveral other Perils. The young thing was wonderfully charmed with one that knew the World ſo well and talked ſo fine; with *Deſdemona*, all her Lover ſaid affected her; *it was ſtrange, 'twas wond'rous ſtrange.* In a Word, I ſaw the Impreſſion I had made upon her, and with a very little Application the pretty thing has married me. There is ſo much Charm in her Innocence and Beauty, that I do now as much deteſt the Courſe I have been in for many Years, as ever I did before I entred into it.

'What I intend, Mr. SPECTATOR, by writing all this to you, is, that you would, before you go any further with your Panegyricks on the fair Sex, give them ſome Lectures upon their ſilly Approbations. It is that I am weary of Vice, and that it was not in my natural Way, that I am now ſo far recovered as not to bring this believing dear Creature to Contempt and Poverty for her Generoſity to me. At the ſame Time tell the Youth of good Education of our Sex, that they take too little Care of improving themſelves in little things: A good Air at entring into a Room, a proper Audacity in expreſſing himſelf with Gayety and Gracefulneſs, would make a young Gentleman of Virtue and Senſe capable of diſcountenancing the ſhallow impudent Rogues that ſhine among the Women.

'Mr. SPECTATOR, I don't doubt but you are a very ſagacious Perſon, but you are ſo great with *Tully* of late, that I fear you will contemn theſe things as Matters of no Conſequence: But believe me, Sir, they are of the higheſt Importance to humane Life; and if you can do any thing towards opening fair Eyes, you will lay an Obligation upon all your Contemporaries who are Fathers, Husbands, or Brothers to Females.

Your moſt affectionate humble Servant,

Simon Honeycomb.

ERRATA.

In Saturday's Spectator, *Col.* 1. *Line* 1. *for* which Wiſhes *read* Wiſnes which; *Line* 24 *of the ſame Col. for* Exaltation *read* Exultation. *Col.* 3, *Line* 15, *read* He that would be long an old Man.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

At the Requeſt of ſeveral Perſons of Quality, who have appointed to be at the famous Water-Theatre of the late ingenious Mr. Winſtanly, it will continue to be ſhewn this preſent Monday, Tueſday, Wedneſday and Thurſday, which will be the laſt Time it will be ſhewn this Summer, and then it will be ſhut up and his famous Houſe at Littlebury in Eſſex will be open'd in compleat Order, and ſhewn for the Benefit of his Widow: With ſeveral new Additions. It is known by a Lanthorn on the Top of it, and a Windmill and a Model of Eddy-ſtone Light-houſe in the Garden, which is ſeen at ſome Diſtance from it. This Place is 36 Miles from London, on the Road to Sturbridge-fair, Cambridge, Newmarket, Berry, Norwich, Lynn and Yarmouth.

This Day is publiſh'd,

An Expoſition on the Thirty nine Articles of the Church of England. By the Right Reverend Father in God William Beveridge, D. D. late Lord Biſhop of St. Aſaph. Printed from his Original Manuſcripts: A full Account of which is given by the Bookſeller to the Reader in the 2d Page. Thoſe that have bought the former Articles may have them ſupply'd. Printed for R. Smith in Exeter-Exchange in the Strand.

R. Stoughton, Apothecary, in Southwark, having ſome Time ſince, by Order of a Merchant, ſent 30 Dozen of his Cordial Elixir to Sweden, has lately receiv'd Advice, that Numbers of People finding it a great Preſerver of Health, drink it every Morning: And further to aſſure it is ſo, hath a Certificate from thence, That (to the Perſon's beſt Knowledge and Obſervation) not one who took it hath had the Diſeaſe, and many are of Opinion it hath been of great Uſe in ſtopping the Progreſs of it. He hath alſo a Certificate from on board a Ship at Jamaica, That after 6 or 7 of the Men died in 24 Hours of a malignant Diſtemper, the Captain himſelf (fearing he ſhould loſe all his Men) gave the reſt, who were ſick'd, plentifully of this Elixir (which for many Years he took with him) and by God's Bleſſing on it ſaved every Man after. He is not only willing, but deſirous this may be publiſh'd for the Good of others. Few now will go to Sea or travel without it. The Certificates themſelves any Gentleman may ſee if they pleaſe. N.B. Small Boxes are juſt now beſpoke again for Sweden, and I hear the Court Phyſicians have order'd it into the Army.

Angelick Snuff: The moſt noble Compoſition in the world, removing all manner of Diſorders of the Head and Brain, eaſing the moſt excruciating Pain in a Moment; taking away all Swimming or Giddineſs proceeding from Vapours, &c. alſo Drowſineſs, Sleepineſs and other lethargick Effects, perfectly curing Deafneſs to Admiration, and all Humours or Soreneſs in the Eyes, &c. ſtrength'ning them when weak; certainly cures Catarrhs, or Defluxions of Rheum, and remedies the Tooth-ach inſtantly; is excellently beneficial in Apoplectick Fits and Falling-Sickneſs, and aſſuredly prevents thoſe Diſtempers; corroborates the Brain, comforts the Nerves, and revives the Spirits. Its admirable Efficacy in all the above-mention'd Diſeaſes has been experienc'd above a Thouſand times, and very juſtly cauſes it to be eſteem'd the moſt beneficial Snuff in the World, being good for all ſorts of Perſons. Price 1s a Paper, with Directions. Sold only at Mr. Payn's Toyſhop at the Angel and Crown in St. Paul's Church-yard near Cheapſide.

The famous Spaniſh Blacking for Gentlemens Shoes that ever was Invented or Uſed; it making them always look like New, never Daubs the Hands in putting on, or Soils the Stockings in wearing; neither has it the ordinary Gloſs of German-Balls, or the intolerable noiſome ſtink of Size, but of is an agreeable Scent. It indeed makes the Shoes look extreamly Neat and mightily preſerves the Leather: All that uſe it Admire it, and thoſe that once try it, will never uſe any thing elſe. Sold for 1s. 6 d. the Pot, with Directions, (which will laſt 3 or 4 Months) only at Mr. John Hannam's, a Toyſhop, at the 3 Angels near Fotter-Lane in Cheapſide.

Famous Drops for Hypocondriack Melancholy: Which effectually cure on the Spot, by rectifying the Stomach and Blood, cleanſing them from all Impurities, and giving a new Turn to their Ferment, attenuating all viſcous tenacious Humours (which make the Head heavy, clog the Spirits, confuſe the Mind, and cauſe the deepeſt Melancholly, with direful Views and black Reflections) comforting the Brain and Nerves, compoſing the hurried Thoughts and introducing bright lively Ideas and pleaſant Briskneſs, inſtead of diſmal Apprehenſions and dark Incumbrance of the Soul, ſetting the Intellectuals at Liberty to act with Courage, Serenity and Steddy Chearfulneſs, and cauſing a viſible diffuſive Joy to reign in the Room of uneaſy Doubts, Fears, &c. for which they may be truly eſteem'd infallible. Price 3s. 6 d. a Bottle, with Directions. Sold only at Mr. Bell's Bookſeller at the Croſs-Keys and Bible in Cornhill near the Royal-Exchange.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in; as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.

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